

Electronic Library

by Ruby Mizue

HONOLULU DISTRICT INTRANET

New items are posted continuously on the district Intranet, and an update message will be sent out weekly. To access the district Intranet, be sure to use *Internet Explorer* and go to: <https://pohinfo>. To facilitate periodic access, add this address to your "Favorites."

ENGINEERING ELECTRONIC RESOURCES UPDATE

As we begin the new fiscal year with a commitment to providing superior engineering and other services throughout the Pacific region, here is a brief overview of the engineering electronic "toolbox" available for the engineering/technical staff. All the products have been used by district staff for several years, and most are restricted in access and use by licensing requirements. The usernames/passwords must not be provided to anyone outside Honolulu District, including contractors. To do so is in violation of licensing agreements and may adversely affect accessibility for legitimate HED users.

NFPA Codes Online Subscription Service—New and Improved! Honolulu District Engineering and Construction Division has renewed the online version of the NFPA Fire Codes for FY02. The web-based subscription for five simultaneous users is restricted to Honolulu District staff and requires a username and password.

This service puts the latest edition of every code at your fingertips, everytime you need it, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, whether at your desk, at home, or on TDY. Since it's on the Internet, district engineering staff in all outlying field

offices with Internet access can also use the product.

According to the NFPA, the improved service preserves many of the familiar features that you have been using this past year, but will also incorporate new and better-integrated sources of information to assist in accessing, understanding, and using the Codes. With the new features, **logon procedures have changed**. Instructions on accessing the product, username and password are available from Ruby Mizue at 438-8348.

Information Handling Service (IHS) Specs and Standards on the Web— For FY02, Japan District and Far East District joined Honolulu District E & C in renewing this subscription. The service includes standards from ARI, BHMA, ANSI Construction, ASHRAE, AWWA, MSS, NEMA, UL-electrical, ASTM Construction, and AASHTO. Since the subscription is shared by three districts, our license is now for *five* simultaneous users and requires a username/password. Logon procedures and the password remain unchanged from last year. Contact Ruby Mizue if you need more information.

The web search engine allows you to search the database of over 300,000 specs, standards and related documents. Our subscription provides access to the **image pages** of documents from the organizations listed above. Selected recent documents are now available full-text. Go directly to this service when you are trying to locate an item from one of the organizations covered by our subscription. Tutorials and demos are available from the Help menu at the website.

Other engineering electronic resources include **Construction Criteria Base (CCB)**, **DoD ASSIST Quick Search**, and **NSSN-A National Resource for Global Standards**. The features and access requirements for these as well as NFPA and IHS are summarized in a document titled "*Engineering Electronic Resources*," which is posted in the Outlook Public Folders, Information Management category, E-library Connection mailbox.

PRODUCTIVITY CORNER

Kindness of Strangers

A man was driving home one snowy winter evening. He was thinking of his family's situation. With factories in the small town closing, it had been difficult to find work. And he didn't want to leave the place he grew up in.

He was so preoccupied, he almost didn't see the old woman stranded on the side of the road. He pulled his beat-up Pontiac in front of her Mercedes. He saw that she was a little frightened so he told her, "I'm here to help you, ma'am. Why don't you wait in the car where it's warm. By the way, my name is Joe."

All she had was a flat tire, which Joe replaced. She was so grateful, she asked if she could pay Joe for his help. Joe thought it over, but decided that this wasn't a job; it was helping someone in need. So he refused payment and said the best way to pay him back was to provide assistance to another person who needed help.

She agreed and was again on her way.

A few miles down the road, the lady saw a small, dingy cafe. She went in to grab a bite to eat. Her waitress came over and kindly brought a clean towel to wipe her wet hair. The lady noticed that the waitress was very pregnant. But despite the hard work, the waitress still smiled sweetly.

After the old woman finished her meal and the waitress went to get her change from a hundred dollar bill, the lady slipped out the door. When the waitress returned, she found only a napkin on which was written, "You don't owe me a thing, I've been there too. Someone once helped me out, the way I'm helping you. If you really want to pay me back, here's what you do. Don't let the chain of love end with you."

When the waitress went home, she wondered at the woman's generosity right when she needed it most. And when she went to bed that night, she turned to her husband, kissed him and whispered, "Everything's gonna be alright, Joe."

—Ragan's Communications

The most visible symbol in New York is the spirit of a free people. —New York City mayor Rudolph Giuliani